

# Worship for Christmas Eve

December 24, 2016  
Six O'clock in the Evening

Organ Voluntaries

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*  
*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

setting by David Lowe

setting by David Lasky

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Paul Sims

*Tonight old dreams die and new dreams come to life.*

*The Promise is fulfilled!*

***Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.***

*Hope gives way to joy and prayer to proclamation.*

***Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.***

*Our candles illuminate our story.*

*Dawn invades midnight.*

*The Light of the World has come.*

***Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.***

*And this light is a light for all –*

*igniting a flame within the soul, warming us from within, radiating love,*

*lighting our lives with the presence of God-come-alive in human flesh*

*within us and among us now and always.*

***Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.***

+Carol 103

stanzas 1, 2 and 3

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

ADESTE FIDELES

+Prayer of Praise and Adoration

Alex Lockridge

+Act of Praise

MENDELSSOHN

***Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!***

***Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.***

***Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,***

***Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.***

***Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"***

- Charles Wesley, 18<sup>th</sup> century

The First Lesson	Isaiah 9:2, 6-7	Austin Carty
Carol 112	<i>Child in the Manger</i>	BUNESSAN
The Second Lesson	Titus 2:11-14	Alex Lockridge
Carol 111	<i>Away in a Manger</i>	CRADLE SONG
The Third Lesson	Luke 2:1-14	Austin Carty
+Carol 125	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	GLORIA
The Fourth Lesson	Luke 2:15-20	Paul Sims
+Spiritual	<i>Go, Tell It on the Mountain</i>	GO TELL IT

***Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;***

***Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!***

1. ***While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,  
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. REFRAIN***
2. ***The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth  
Rang out the angel-chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. REFRAIN***
3. ***Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,  
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. REFRAIN***

Homily	Yonder Breaks a New and Glorious Morn	Austin Carty
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Carol	<i>O Holy Night</i> Paul Sims	by Adolphe Adam
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*O holy night! the stars are brightly shining, it is the night of the dear Savior's birth;  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining, till he appeared, and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.  
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices! O night divine! O night when Christ was born!  
Truly he taught us to love one another; his law is love and his gospel is peace.  
Chains shall be break, for the slave is our brother, and in his name all oppression shall cease.  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we, let all within us praise his holy name.  
Christ is the Lord, then ever, ever praise we, his pow'r and glory evermore proclaim.*

- John Dwight, 19<sup>th</sup> century

+Affirmation of Faith

Alex Lockridge

*Let us say what we believe:*

***We believe that on this glad night Deity was cradled in a manger,  
that there was Emmanuel, God-with-us. We believe that this one  
is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.***

***We call him Jesus, for he has saved us from our sins.***

***We believe that Jesus is God-for-us, our Savior and Friend.***

***We believe he is the Prince of Peace, the very Word of God  
made flesh to dwell among us, and that as we receive him  
we become children of God.***

***We believe that he is not only God of our lives, but also Lord of the world.***

***In him, and for him all things were made.***

***We believe he is the Light of the World, the King of all kings.***

***Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Alleluia! Amen.***

+Act of Praise

ANTIOCH

***Joy to the world! the Lord is come; let earth receive her King;***

***Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, ....***

- Isaac Watts, 18<sup>th</sup> century

The Celebration of Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*The Lord be with you.*

***And also with you.***

*Lift up your hearts.*

***We lift them to the Lord.***

*Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

(the Prayer of Thanksgiving continues)

*Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation  
to proclaim the glory of your name:*

sung: ***Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!***

*... with thanksgiving we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice,  
dedicated to your service.*

***Amen.***

Breaking the Bread; Blessing the Cup

## The Communion of the People

please come forward by way of a center aisle, receive a piece of bread, dip it in the cup, then partake of the bread and wine; please return to your pew by way of a window aisle and be seated.

Prayer after Communion

Paul Sims

+Carol

*Silent Night! Holy Night*

STILLE NACHT

*Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright  
'Round yon virgin mother and Child, holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.  
Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glory streams from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia,  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."  
Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light,  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.  
Silent night, holy night! Wondrous Star lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.*

- Joseph Mohr, 19<sup>th</sup> century

+Benediction

Austin Carty and Alex Lockridge

Organ Postlude

*Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

setting by David Lowe

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+those who are able may stand

Gayle Majors, Organist    Ann Hacker, Pianist

Ushers will be at exits to receive an offering that will be used throughout the coming year to help local families with emergency needs. Please give generously.

## Worship for Christmas Day

Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning